

Newsletter – Autumn 2001

Welcome to the East Ardsley Cricket Club Autumn Newsletter.

The main aim of this newsletter is to inform you of our plans for the Club over the next year or so. As you may have realised, this will be a very special year for the Club, as we will be celebrating our 125th anniversary. We are planning to celebrate in style with a number of events, which we hope will bring in the crowds.

There is also a second reason for sending this newsletter. Recent years have seen a great deal of change at the Club, and much improvement in the standard of facilities. The Committee realises that there is still a fair amount of work to be done (principally in the clubhouse), but things are not moving as quickly as had been hoped. This is mainly due to the small number of people who actively get involved at the Club. We hope to highlight in this newsletter what is involved in running the Club and why we are in desperate need of more help.

Help us Progress

Have you ever caught yourself saying the words, "What this Club needs is..." or, "What they should do is..."? I suspect that quite a few people have these very thoughts whilst attending fixtures or events at the Club. The Committee would love to hear your thoughts and ideas about how the Club could be improved. But we'd like it even more if you could help put your ideas into practice. We are **desperate** for more people, be it players, supporters or parents, to take an active interest, so that we can raise more funds and carry out the improvements we would all like to see. The Club has enormous potential, but at present is failing to fulfil it. Here are some facts and figures, which may surprise you.

The Good...

- The Club has been in existence for nearly 125 years.
- We own our ground and the stables by the score box.
- We have almost 50 registered junior players and 37 senior players.
- We have our very own web site, which is regularly updated throughout the season.
- We have some of the best facilities of any club in the league.
- We currently have no paid employees. All work at the Club, including running the bar, is done by a very small number of volunteers.

...the Bad...

- Interest is so low, that we have 5 vacant positions on the Committee.
- 13 people (usually 2 per game) covered the tea rota last season, providing teas for 28 fixtures. That's an average of 4 games each.
- Only 8 parents of junior players are Members of the Club.

...& the Ugly

- At the recent AGM (which was attended by only 20 people) it was suggested that the Club should 'close its doors' because of the lack of support it receives from players and supporters.
- The Club has £11,000 of loan capital to repay and annual interest of £750 to pay on this.
- Each year the Club needs to raise £8,500, just to survive.

So what could you do to help? Well, you could join the Committee, become a sponsor, make a donation, volunteer to make teas, or just give us your ideas.

If you feel that you are in a position to contribute in any way to the future success of the Club, please complete the attached form and send it back in the envelope provided. Please bear in mind how the Club benefits you or members of your family and consider what you can give back. Thank you.

2001 The Story So Far (a word from the Chairman)

In the early 20th century there used to be two cricket Clubs in the village. They merged to become one, hence the 'United' part of the Club's name, and made their home at the current ground.

From records, we have seen the Club has had a few successes over the years but has largely been one of the 'average' Clubs. We used to play in the Leeds league but moved into the Central Yorkshire league in the mid 1900's to compete at a 'higher' standard of cricket, where we have played since, mainly in the second (or first as it is now) division.

The 1980's was the most successful decade when we played in the first division for five years in total, gaining promotion three times and reaching three Heavy Woollen Cup Semi Finals. The 2nd XI also reached a Crowther Cup final during this period.

If anyone has any press cuttings, photographs or other memorabilia we would love to see them and add to what history we already know about the Club.

The Club ran a junior section for many years but then had a gap from the late 1980's to the early 1990's before junior teams were started again. We now run teams at Under 17, 15, 13 and 11 age groups and hold regular coaching for players of all ages. The long-term future of the Club lies with our juniors and we would like to see them win some trophies in the near future.

Over the last five years the Club has made large strides forward, improving both the playing facilities, access to the ground and general infrastructure of the Club. We hope to refurbish the Club lounge in the very near future to create a welcoming and comfortable environment for members and guests. Our hope is that through partial funding from the brewery, we can raise the ceiling, re-cover the seating, replace the carpets and decorate, before the start of next season. This is an ambitious plan, and will only be achieved through the help of a number of volunteers.

Our aim is to have a Club which the village is proud of and which is renowned for its pleasant and hospitable surroundings together with excellent playing facilities. We want to compete with the best and have players, spectators and members sharing in success.

Please help us to achieve our aims by supporting us in any way possible. There are many enjoyable social evenings in our calendar so come and join us and have a good night out - or let us know any other way which you could help.

The Committee

The following Club officials would be delighted to hear your views and opinions. Please feel free to contact them.

Chairman & Treasurer Mr M.D.Pearson

Secretary Mr J.P.Smith

Cricket Secretary Mr G.Kinder

2002 A Year To Remember

Please take a moment to look at our list of planned events.

We hope there's something for everyone, but please feel free to let us know what you think and suggest any alternatives which may appeal to you.

(N.B. - exact dates for some events are not yet known. Check local advertising or the website nearer the time.)

Coming
events

Saturday December 15th 2001

Christmas Party



2002

Saturday February 23rd



Race Night

Saturday March 16th

Irish Night



Saturday April 27th



Celebration Reunion

Friday May 24th

Casino Night



Friday June 28th



Sportsman's Dinner

July

Celebration Gala



August

Morley Cup Final



Friday September 6th

"Ice" Concert



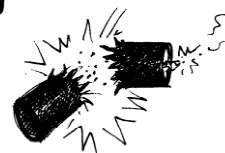
October

Junior Presentation Evening



Saturday November 2nd

Bonfire Night



Saturday 16th November

Annual Dinner



I would like to volunteer to help.

Name:

Address:

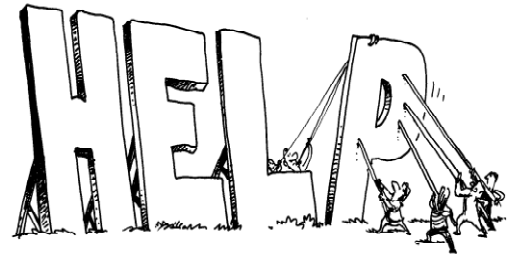
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Telephone:

e-mail:



Please tick the appropriate box(es) and return this form in the envelope provided:

I would like to join the Committee Tick
☐

I would like to join the tea rota ☐

I would like to help with the 125th Anniversary events ☐

I would like to help out informally and can be contacted when help is required ☐

* I would like to make a donation to the Club ☐

** I would like to sponsor the Club ☐

*** I would like to become a Member of the Club ☐

I have a great idea. It is:

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* Please make cheques payable to East Ardsley Cricket Club

** We will contact you to explain the ways in which you can sponsor the Club.

*** Ordinary Membership rates for 2002: Single Adult £10, Couples £15, OAPs £5, Under 18s Free. Please supply names of all those wishing to join. Please make cheques payable to East Ardsley Cricket Club